

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

My name is Harold Ostrow and I am the Chairman of the Voters' Coalition of Palm Beach County. This is a nonpartisan organization that encourages people to get involved in the political process and endorses both Republican and Democratic candidates.

I am also a resident of the Huntington Lakes subdivision in Delray Beach which consists of 1800 units occupied by seniors who share a community of interest. Despite this, ill advised redistricting, 10 years ago, divided our community's representation in the state legislature between two different state representatives. This must be corrected and similar situations avoided this time around. It is essential that communities that share interests be kept together for the purpose of representation.

The same can be said for Palm Beach County's representation in the Florida Senate. Because much of the county is tacked on to predominantly surrounding county districts, only 2 of the 6 state senators representing Palm Beach County live in Palm Beach County. The other 4 do not share Palm Beach County's community of interest as their priority. This, too, should be corrected for, again, it is essential that communities that share interests be kept together for the purpose of representation.

With respect to Congressional redistricting, as you know, Palm Beach County is a majority Democratic county and, as I am sure you will agree, should retain a Democratic Member of Congress. But it is essential that it be one who lives in Palm Beach County and not one who resides outside of the county. I must point out the unusual bond that has developed between the people of the 19th Congressional District and their elected representative, Robert Wexler. This is due to Wexler's extraordinary job of representing the shared interests of those veteran and senior communities within his district. This should not be lost. So, once again, I say to you that communities that share interests should be kept together for the purpose of representation.

I know that redistricting has traditionally been a partisan process. However, it is my hope that you will rise above the past and follow the principle of fairness and place the interests of people above partisan politics. Please do not draw lines or chop up our districts to fit some agenda. Please consider what is best for each community. We want a fair and logical process with a fair and equitable outcome.

I thank you for the opportunity to address you. I am submitting a written copy of my testimony for the record.

Sept. 6, 2001

MR. CHAIRMAN + MEMBERS OF
THE COMMITTEE - MY NAME IS
SYLVIA WOLFE-HERMAN -
I'VE LIVED HERE FOR 28 YRS
+ PLEASE CONSIDER ME FOR
ONE DAY A CRACKER I'VE LIVED
IN P.B. COUNTY FOR 28 YRS
+ HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED A
POLITICAL ACTIVIST.

WE MUST HAVE A P.B. DEMO-
CRATIC CONGRESSMAN +
SENATOR -

OUR REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT
WEXLER + SENATOR RON
KHEIN HAS ALWAYS BEEN
THERE TO HELP US IN ANY

II
SITUATION IN WHATEVER
WE REQUESTED FROM THEM.

I PLEAD WITH YOUR
COMMITTEE TO ALLOW
REPRESENTATIVE ^{ROBERT WEXLER} + SENATOR ^{RON KHEIN}
TO REMAIN IN OUR DISTRICT,
THEY ARE AN EXTENSION
OF OUR COMMUNITY REGARD-
LESS OF RACE RELIGION OR
POLITICAL PARTY.

THANK YOU,

September 6, 2001

348 Eastwood Terrace
Boca Raton, FL 33431-8264

Florida State Reapportionment Committee
South County Civic Center
Delray Beach, FL

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Roslyn Rudolph of Boca Raton. I have been a resident of Florida since October 1991. I arrived here when the State was involved with reapportionment and redistricting based on the 1990 census. At that time I had no knowledge of the process and the procedures for the reapportionment of Palm Beach County and the State. As a political activist I systematically studied this year's process and procedures.

I am here to ask the members of the Florida State Reapportionment Committee to be guided by being a role model for our forty nine other States of our Union by demonstrating the ability to plan and implement "Fairness" in their deliberations.

As I see it "Fairness" means addressing the needs of the whole community, including minorities, so that communities of interests will not be destroyed. The planning of districts would enhance community pride when compactness, contiguity, natural and non-natural boundaries are part of the "Fairness" process and procedures. What you do will tell all Floridians and the world that your concerns reflect our concerns. Fairness will impact on our schools, students and teachers; senior citizens, veterans, the homeless and the handicapped.

"Fairness" will give all Floridians an opportunity to review your plans as you submit them and as they are revised. "Fairness" will give all Floridians an opportunity to comment on your plans in each step of the way in each of the State's nine media markets.

Page 2 Roslyn Rudolph September 6, 2001 Reapportionment
Committee Hearing

Tallahassee is not convenient or accessible for most Floridians. It is essential that there be additional local hearings.

“Fairness” does not mean packing or creating districts so overwhelmed with Democrats that you end up draining all surrounding areas from electing minority or Democratic candidates. That strategy will almost certainly dilute minority political strength on a statewide basis. That is not fair. Florida is a very diverse state and its legislative and congressional seats should equitably reflect its population.

In closing, the spotlights are on Florida. What you do will demonstrate that Florida is a fair-thinking and fair-acting State.

Thank you.

**MY NAME IS PHYLLIS LAPIDUS AND I LIVE IN BROKEN SOUND
IN THE CITY OF BOCA RATON. I'M THE LEGISLATIVE
REPRESENTATIVE FOR FLORIDA FOR THE UNITED FEDERATION OF
TEACHERS/RETIRED TEACHERS CHAPTER – RETIRED N.Y.C. TEACHERS
WHO LIVE AND VOTE IN FLORIDA. WE HAVE A FEW THOUSAND
RETIREES WHO LIVE IN PALM BEACH COUNTY, A FEW THOUSAND
MORE LIVING IN BROWARD COUNTY AS WELL AS SEVERAL THOUSAND
LIVING IN OTHER PARTS OF FLORIDA. I ALSO AM THE AREA VICE-
PRESIDENT FOR PALM BEACH AND BROWARD COUNTIES FOR THE
FLORIDA ALLIANCE OF RETIRED AMERICANS.**

**CONGRESSMAN WEXLER REPRESENTS THE DISTRICT MANY OF US
LIVE IN AND HE DOES AN OUTSTANDING JOB OF REPRESENTING THE
RETIREES IN HIS DISTRICT AS WELL AS THE YOUNGER PEOPLE WITH
FAMILIES. OUR DISTRICT IS CURRENTLY SET UP TO GIVE US
EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION OF OUR CONCERNS IN TALLAHASSEE
WITH STATE SENATOR RON KLEIN AND WASHINGTON D.C. WITH
CONGRESSMAN ROBERT WEXLER. THEY BOTH UNDERSTAND THE
NEEDS OF OUR CITIES, SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, SENIORS, VETERANS, ETC.**

**I'D LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT CONGRESSMAN WEXLER IS THE ONLY
DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSMAN LIVING IN PALM BEACH COUNTY. WE
CERTAINLY FEEL IT IS ONLY FAIR THAT WE HAVE A CONGRESSMAN
WHO LIVES IN PALM BEACH COUNTY AND WHO HAS REPRESENTED US**

FIRST IN TALLAHASSEE AS A STATE REPRESENTATIVE, THEN AS OUR STATE SENATOR AND NOW AS OUR CONGRESSMAN. STATE SENATOR RON KLEIN HAS ALSO WORKED WITH AND FOR US FIRST AS A STATE REPRESENTATIVE AND NOW AS A SENATOR.

MY COMMUNITY OF BROKEN SOUND HAS ONE PROBLEM-WE ARE DIVIDED WHEN IT COMES TO STATE REPRESENTATIVE. I THINK WE ALL WOULD BE HAPPIER IF STATE REPRESENTATIVE IRVING SLOSBERG REPRESENTED ALL OF BROKEN SOUND INSTEAD OF JUST A PART OF IT-ONE COMMUNITY WITH SO MANY SIMILAR INTERESTS AND NEEDS SHOULD HAVE ONE STATE REPRESENTATIVE RATHER THAN TWO DIFFERENT ONES. THE PROCESS OF REAPORTIONMENT IS TO BE FAIR TO THE COMMUNITY. THIS IS NOT FAIR TO THE COMMUNITY OF BROKEN SOUND.

WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO DISTURB THE HARMONY OF OUR DISTRICT EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR TALLAHASSEE. WE WANT WHAT IS FAIR TO ALL OF US. OUR COMMUNITY SHARES SIMILAR INTEREST AND CONCERNS. OUR LEGISLATORS UNDERSTAND OUR NEEDS. WE HOPE YOU WILL.

THANK YOU



Joan Karp, Speaker #12
League of Women Voters

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY
P.O. BOX 757 • DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33447-0757 • (561) 276-4898

I am Joan Karp, President of the League of Women Voters of South Palm Beach County. I thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

The League urges the Commission to adopt redistricting standards whereby:

1. The districts would be drawn as equal in population as practicable.
2. The districts formed would be compact and contiguous.
3. The voting strength of racial or minority groups will not be diluted.
4. The districts will not favor any person or political party.
5. Wherever possible, the districts should not span multiple counties. This last point is especially important in Palm Beach County, where the State Legislature's Palm Beach delegation of 16 members has only a few who actually live in Palm Beach County. This makes our elected officials less accessible and less accountable to the county's voters.

The League also requests that workshops for public comment be held after the initial district proposals are made, and sufficient time be given to Legislators to propose amendments as necessary.

Thank you.

American Jewish Committee
Palm Beach County Chapter
Sept. 6, 2001
Statement on Redistricting

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Panel:

My name is Marvin Greenhut and I am a longstanding member of the American Jewish Committee's Palm Beach County Chapter. We welcome you to south Palm Beach County. The American Jewish Committee is this nation's oldest human relations agency now celebrating its 96th anniversary. Its Palm Beach County presence dates to 1957. We service actually north to Martin and St. Lucie counties. Our mission nationally and locally is to protect the religious and civil rights of Jews and others here and abroad.

There is no immigrant group in America that is more passionate about the democratic process than is America's Jewish citizens. Thus whether it is the constitution of these United States, the constitution of the Sunshine state, our public school system or other key elements of our great republic, American Jewish Committee is there to fight for protecting this nation's ideals and the rights of this nation's citizens.

Redistricting goes to the heart of democracy. You are shouldering in this process a lofty but weighty obligation. The ideals of our Constitution expressed from the very first words, "We the people..." speaks to representation. That is what redistricting is: a process that makes our democracy what it is, representative. Think about how wonderful this process is. Every voter gets an equal crack at the system. Every representative has the same numeric duty. But that is maybe the easiest part of it. The rest of the story is one that shows at every turn somebody's ox getting gored. In reality, no process is more political, in the negative sense of the word than is this one.

It is understandable. You are bound to protect the incumbent. But what if the incumbent is of another party? You are bound to protect the integrity of particular group interests. How do you know if Hispanics and Jews, African Americans and Haitians, Asians and Russians have similar concerns. You are bound to create districts that have geographic integrity but does it really matter if this block is over here, that census tract over there, or some county rationalized into the map? And what of those natural barriers, a canal, a lake, a river?

The answer is yes, of course it matters. The reason it matters is the process. The reason it matters is because some day you will say to your children and grandchildren, "I sat in the legislative body of one of the nation's great states and produced a document that caused our founding fathers watching the process to nod in assent and say 'well done, fellow American, well done.'"

Thank you!

**MR CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE -- MY
NAME IS HERBERT SMALL.**

**I HAD NEVER BEEN POLITICALLY INVOLVED BECAUSE I WAS
TOO BUSY TRYING TO EARN A LIVING FOR MY FAMILY.**

**HOWEVER, SINCE RETIRING I TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS
HAPPENING AROUND ME.**

**I AM HERE, AS A VETERAN ---- A COMBAT VETERAN OF
WORLD WAR II. I FLEW 35 COMBAT MISSIONS OVER JAPAN
WITH MEN OF DIFFERING POLITICAL VIEW. THERE WAS NO
ANTAGONISM BECAUSE WE HAD A JOINT MISSION TO
COMPLETE.....THAT WAS TO ATTAIN FAIRNESS AND
EQUALITY REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL PARTY.**

**I HAVE VOTED EVERY YEAR SINCE GETTING OUT OF
MILITARY SERVICE.**

YES, I HAVE VOTED FOR DEMOCRATS---

I HAVE VOTED FOR REPUBLICANS ----

AND I HAVE ALSO VOTED FOR THIRD PARTY POLITICIANS.

NEEDLESS TO SAY MY CHOICE DIDN'T ALWAYS WIN.

**I AM HERE TODAY TO REQUEST THAT YOU CONSIDER
FAIRNES AND EQUALITY WHEN REDISTRICTING THIS
COMMUNITY.**

THANK YOU.

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HERBERT SMALL

Everyday we are presented with choices that require us to make decisions. We have the opportunity to face each one with clarity and integrity. You have been given the power to make these reapportionment decisions. This right rests in your hands. But with each right comes an equal measure of responsibility. In recent years we have seen many people exercising their power, but rarely with enough regard for the attendant responsibilities. Our country is filled with symbols. In this case we have a donkey, we have an elephant, and we have an eagle. We can either lumber along the earth or listen to the eagle calling upon us to strive for higher ideals.

I'm not asking you to put your party second. It's your turn. I'm only asking that you act with a fair hand. That your leadership be driven by integrity, not insecurity. That you find the courage to be just. Our system of justice is exemplified by the scales. This symbol stands as a reminder that we act with a sense of equality in all our endeavors, and in particular those that affect the lives of others.

It has been rumored that one tactic is to redraw the lines in such a way as to put Congressmen Wexler and Deutch in the same district. This ploy would be utterly antithetical to the ideals of looking beyond just self serving motives. These are good men. These are respected men. These are men that represent their constituents. To blend these districts as a means of squashing one, would be to stomp on the needs and interests of the constituents and to squelch their contentment with congress.

Some day you will all be retired and spending most of your days resting in a comfortable chair. Then your minds will travel back over all the decisions you made in your lives. In that journey, you will return here. And at that time you will either be haunted by shame or lifted with pride. I challenge you to soar on the wing of the Eagle.

Nancy Ganz

7935 Talavera Place

Delray Beach, FL 33446

(561) 637-7660

September 6, 2001 Hearing at 6 :PM
Committee on Reapportionment Hearing, South County Civic Center, Delray Beach

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee on Reapportionment, my name is Julius Schiller. I live in Boynton Beach and I am a Democrat. Thank you for scheduling this public hearing, which has made it possible for me to participate.

Current districts have made it possible for us to elect state representatives, senators, and congressional representatives who work for our well-being and are truly an extension of the communities they represent. We would want to keep the districts as they are, so that we may continue to elect caring representatives who would interact with diverse ethnic groups, understand community needs and interests, and take the time to be aware of our educational, social services, health, and other needs. Our representatives go into the communities to visit students, young families, seniors, the ill, veterans, and more. These are not token visits, but interactive visits. What could be better than that?

Every 10 years, the census makes us aware of where the growth is. State limits mandate the need to bring the districts into agreement with state laws. Without question this wants to be done free of political inspiration, with balance and fairness for all.

Committee standards and guidelines should be given to the public together with census data, maps, precinct and district lines for insight into where growth is mandating change. For this preliminary meeting this did not happen. Should the data be on software, please advise on how this it can be made available. The following are questions for your deliberation:

1. Since we have not gotten preliminary maps, census, precinct, or district data, will the public get a tape, or have available on the internet, or otherwise, the proceedings of this meeting?
2. Will the public get or see preliminary maps and data prior to a follow-up hearing?
3. Will there be follow-up public hearings?
4. Will the public get or see maps and data prior to finalization?
5. In drawing up the lines for revising districts, what are the guidelines or principles that the committee will propose?
6. How will the committee and legislature factor in the following:
 - a. contiguity, compactness, community of interest?
 - b. population shifts, growth, minority fragmenting, contorted packing?
 - c. undo house, senate, congressional district separation?
 - d. avoid partisan favors for any political party?
7. Minorities were undercounted in the census. How do you propose to compensate for that?
8. Will all districts satisfy the maximum numerical limits? If not, how will this be done equitably?

In your activity, kindly strive to be NONPARTISAN. To be FAIR. Adhere to your guiding standard. Constantly ask: Would this be Fair? Thank you, and GOOD LUCK!!

Julius Schiller email jmschill07@aol.com



Dr. Mary Russell
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road
P.O. Box 3091 Boca Raton, FL

Mary Russell, Speaker 55,
Florida Atlantic University

My name is Dr. Mary Russell. I serve as the Director of the Safe Communities Lifelong Mobility Center based at Florida Atlantic University. Safe Communities is an international community-based injury prevention model supported in the United States by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

33431-0991

Our site was the first Safe Communities site established in Florida and one of the very first in the nation. Our goal is to prevent injuries from occurring with a focus on the prevention of injuries related to motor vehicle crashes. This goal can be met with public information and education, engineering and technology solutions, enforcement and legislative initiatives, and economic incentives. Since we are community-based, we are very much connected with community residents and seek their feedback in all that we do.

The Center activities include sponsorship of the Elder Mobility Project which offers:

- Feedback to drivers about their driving capabilities
- A referral pathway for agencies who have identified high-risk drivers to evaluate their skills
- Mobility counseling for persons who can no longer drive
- Community and Professional Education
- Seeks to strengthen community-based transportation services

Senator Ron Klein has been a transportation safety advocate of our injury prevention efforts as well as other Palm Beach County agencies over the last 5 years. He and his office staff have been accessible both in person and on the phone, responsive to community concerns, have become informed on issues, and offered insight as to public policy recommendations to ensure that there is sustainable support for initiatives over time. He has genuine concern for community resident's opinions about their unmet transportation needs and other concerns. I would like to also add that he exhibits professionalism as a legislator that makes all of us proud.

I am here tonight to request that the redistricting process takes into consideration the existing strong working relationship that Senator Klein has for South Palm Beach County residents and agencies such as ours. Thank you for your time.



Florida House of Representatives
&
Florida Senate



Public Hearing Appearance Record

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The only bright spot during this hearing was to

Date: 9/2/01 Phone # 471-9636

Name: EVELYN STAUBER

Organization: concerned democrat

Address: 599 Burgundy N.
Delray Beach,

see my
rep.
Dw.

②

I do not ask for your business.

State Employee

Lobbyist

Other

Schlossberg

I do not
expect it.

Materials to submit

I wish to speak

Evelyn Stauber

Amadeo Trinchitella
Condominium Owners Organization



Condominium Owners Organization of Century Village East, Inc.

*3501 West Drive
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442-2085*

*Phone (954) 421-5566
Fax (954) 421-9269*

September 6, 2001

My name is Amadeo "Trinchi" Trinchitella, as Chairman of Recreation as well as a resident of Century Village East, I am writing this letter on behalf of the residents of Century Village East located in Deerfield Beach, in North Broward County. I ask that The Honorable Ron Klein, State Senator, District 28, read this letter at the public redistricting hearing on Thursday, September 6th, 2001, so that it may be submitted to the committee and become part of the public testimony.

I live in State Senate District 28, which Senator Ron Klein has represented so well over the years. Senate District 28 also includes parts of Palm Beach County. In fact, most of the district is in Palm Beach County. I understand that in some cases people have asked to have their districts contained all in one county – and in some cases that may make sense. This is NOT one of those cases. Those of us who are in the Broward County portion of Senate District 28 want to remain in Senate District 28.

There is another Century Village community in Palm Beach County. It is located in Boca Raton, and is also within Senate District 28. The demographics of these two Century Village communities are essentially the same. Both the North Broward Century Village and the Palm Beach Century Village are retirement communities with large Jewish populations. In addition to the same religious interests, the large senior populations in these two communities are confronted with the same issues; meeting their increasing health care needs while on a fixed income, Medicare, Medicaid and dealing with the rising cost of hurricane, windstorm and floor insurance – again, while living on a fixed income.

• COOCVE •

A Not-for-Profit Corporation Operated by Unpaid Resident Volunteers

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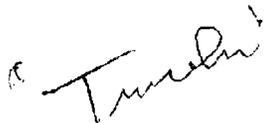
The current configuration of Senate District 28 has served the residents of both the North Broward County Century Village and the Palm Beach County Century Village as well. It has allowed our Senator Ron Klein to advocate for both of our communities on these issues. It has also allowed him to address the transportation needs of both communities, which are the same, and to support the large number of Veterans in both communities in their efforts to keep the VA Hospital located in close proximity to them, in Broward County open, despite the Veterans Administration's desire to relocate the hospital to Miami-Dade County.

In summary, the North Broward and the Palm Beach Century Villages constitutes a community of interest, which should be maintained as you draw the new Senate Districts. I urge you to keep both the North Broward and the Palm Beach Century Villages in Senate District 28.

As stated I am a resident of Senate District 28. Interstate 95 serves as the easternmost boundary of Senate District 28. Interstate 95 also serves as a boundary between the unincorporated areas to the west, and the municipalities to the east. The growth management issues that the residents of our unincorporated areas face, such as suburban sprawl and overcrowded schools, are quite different from the issues faced by our older cities.

I urge you to continue to use Interstate 95 in this area as a boundary between the suburban areas to its west, and the more urban areas to its east, and to keep Senate district 28 as it is currently configured.

Sincerely,



Amadeo "Trinchi" Trinchitella